

## Golden Valley County FSA

Box 5, 206 1<sup>st</sup> St. North  
Ryegate, MT 59074

### County Committee Members

Mike Jansen, Chairman  
John Stoican, Vice-Chairman  
Kerry Schaff, Reg. Member  
Martha Sargent

### FSA Office Personnel

Karen Schanz, CED  
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### Dates to Remember:

**August 4 - September 28** – DCP late filed fee of \$100 will be assessed

**September 3** – Holiday, Office closed

**September 10** – Signup begins for LCP and LIP

**September 24-27** – Tribal Outreach Forum, Gran Tree, Bozeman

**September 28** – Final date for late filed 2007 DCP contracts

**October 1** – CRP payments begin being issued

**October 2 & 3** – Women Stepping Forward for Agriculture Symposium, Dillon

**October 13** – Deadline for removal of hay from CRP emergency haying and Managed haying

**October 13** – Removal of livestock for CRP emergency grazing

**October 15** – CDP Signup Begins

**November 2** – COC ballots will be mailed to eligible voters

**December 1** – NAP application closing date for Honey

**December 3** – Final date to return voted COC ballots to FSA office



## Golden Valley County FSA September, 2007

### Disaster Program Signup Begins—GOLDEN VALLEY NOT ELIGIBLE DUE TO “ZERO” NAP LOSSES

Signup for the *Livestock Compensation Program (LCP)* and the *Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP)* will begin **September 10, 2007**.

Producers in primary counties declared secretarial disaster areas or certain counties declared presidential disaster areas between January 1, 2005 and February 28, 2007 or producers located in counties contiguous to those counties are eligible. Also producers in a primary (or contiguous) county that received an Administrator's Physical Loss Notice directly associated with a disaster declaration made by President Bush may also be eligible for LCP, LIP and DDAP.

*LCP* compensates livestock producers for feed losses occurring between January 1, 2005, and February 28, 2007 due to natural disaster. This can include producers who suffered losses resulting from blizzards that started in 2006 and continued into January 2007. Livestock producers may elect to receive compensation for calendar year 2007 grazing season losses that are attributable to wildfire natural disaster occurring during the applicable period as determined by the Secretary of Agriculture.

Eligible livestock include: dairy cattle, beef cattle, buffalo, beefalo, equine, poultry, elk, reindeer, sheep, goats, deer or swine.

Producers will not be penalized if they reduced the average number of livestock they owned for grazing during the production year for which assistance is being provided.

The payment rate for each livestock category will be 61 percent of the USDA determined national payment rate.

*LIP* compensates livestock producers for livestock losses between January 1, 2005 and February 28, 2007 that resulted from natural disasters.

Eligible livestock include: dairy cattle, beef cattle, buffalo, beefalo, equine, sheep, goats, swine, poultry, or deer.

The payment rate will be 26 percent of the market value of the livestock on the day before the date of death, as determined by the Secretary of Agriculture. These rates will be available at the FSA office during the sign-up period.

Producers may receive a maximum of \$80,000 in LCP or LIP benefits. Eligible producers must choose only one year for which they wish to receive benefits in either of the programs.

## Crop Disaster Program Signup Begins

Signup for the Crop Disaster Program (CDP) will **begin October 15, 2007**. CDP does not require a disaster declaration.

CDP provides benefits to farmers who suffered quantity and quality losses to 2005, 2006, or 2007 crops from natural disasters if the crop was planted before February 28, 2007, or in the case of prevented plantings, for crops that would have been planted before February 28, 2007. Producers who incurred qualifying losses in 2005, 2006, or 2007 must choose only one year to apply for benefits. Producers may apply for benefits for losses to multiple commodities as long as the losses occurred in the same crop year.

Only producers who obtained crop insurance coverage or coverage under the Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) for the year of loss will be eligible for CDP benefits. Producers must have suffered quantity losses in excess of 35 percent to be eligible for CDP. The payment rate is set at 42 percent of the established price.

Assistance, together with any crop insurance or NAP payment received for the same crop and including the value of the crop production not lost, must not exceed 95 percent of the total value of the crop absent the disaster.

Farmers may receive a maximum of \$80,000 in CDP benefits.

## 2007 County Committee Election Dates

August 1	COC nomination forms must be returned to county office by close of business
November 2	Ballots mailed to eligible voters
December 3	Final date to return voted ballots to FSA office

## New Soil Rental Rates

CRP rental rates provide the basis for maximum payment rate calculations used to determine annual rental payments on a per acre basis. Periodic reviews are required to ensure that rental rates reflect county average cash market dryland rents. A state-wide review was completed this summer. This review of cash market dryland rents resulted in an increase of \$1 on a majority of the individual soil types. These new rates became effective on August 16, 2007 and will apply to new CRP contracts approved on or after that date.

The new CRP soil rental rates are posted at the local County FSA Office.

## DCP Signature Deadline is September 28, 2007

Producers enrolled in the Direct and Counter-cyclical Program (DCP) have until September 28th to provide all contract signatures for share acres and late-filed fees.

**NOTE:** A number of questions have been received regarding the restoration of DCP base acreage from CRP contracts expiring on September 30, 2007. Currently, the 2002 Farm Bill provides for restoration of lost base acres when a CRP contract expires. That provision ends September 30, 2007 with the expiration of the 2002 Farm Bill. When a new Farm Bill is passed by Congress, FSA will provide details as they become available.



## Rural Youth Loans

FSA makes loans to individual rural youths to establish and operate income-producing projects in connection with their participation in 4-H clubs, Future Farmers of America, and similar organizations.

Each project must be part of an organized and supervised program of work. The project must be planned and operated with the help of the organization adviser, produce sufficient income to repay the loan, and provide the youth with practical business and educational experience.

### Who may borrow?

To qualify for a loan, an applicant must:

- Be a citizen of the United States (or a permanent resident), which includes Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands;
- Be between 10 and 20 years old;
- Live in a town of less than 10,000 residents;
- Be unable to obtain a loan from other sources; and
- Conduct a modest income-producing project in a supervised program of work, as outlined above.

The project adviser must recommend the project and the loan and agree to provide adequate supervision.

### What are some possible projects?

All projects must be a income producing project.

### What is the maximum loan amount?

The maximum amount for FSA youth loans is \$5,000

### What security is required?

Applicants must sign a promissory note and be responsible for repaying the loan. In some cases, a cosigner may be required. Loan collateral normally consists of items purchased with loan funds.

### What are the repayment terms?

The repayment schedule will be worked out with FSA. Payments will be tailored to the type of project for which the loan was made.

## Women Stepping Forward for Agriculture Symposium

The Women Stepping Forward for Agriculture Symposium will be held October 2 & 3, 2007 at the Beaverhead Golf Course, Highway 41 North in Dillon. Early registration is \$50 due by September 20. The Symposium is sponsored by the State FAC, MT Agri-Women, MT Farm Bureau Women, WIFE and the MT Cattlewomen. The symposium provides a platform for women involved in the promotion of Montana's agriculture to learn of issues affecting rural agricultural communities, promote leadership development, and further support women's leadership roles.

An agenda including the registration form is available at the FSA office or by logging into the Montana FSA homepage at <http://www.fsa.usda.gov>.

## COC Election

Ballots for the county committee (COC) election will be mailed to eligible voters by November 2. The final date to submit ballots to the FSA county office is December 3. See elsewhere in this issue for deadlines for COC Elections.

## New Features on the Web

USDA provides their customers an opportunity to do business electronically 24 hours a day seven days a week over the Internet.

With a Level 2 access, USDA customers may receive their 1099-G form, review any collections or debts they may have with USDA and also review an itemized listing of their USDA payments.

Receiving a Level 2 account is a simple process. By entering your name, address and answering a few questions, customers may have access to the above mentioned items.

Complete step-by-step instructions for obtaining a Level 2 access, retrieving payment information, submitting forms and signing up for certain programs is available by logging on to the Montana FSA Internet site at <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/mt>.

### ***Inside this Issue***

**Disaster Program Signup  
Soil Rental Rates  
Rural Youth Loans  
Women Stepping Forward  
For Agriculture**

#### ***Important Dates to Remember***

September 3 – Office Closed, Labor Day  
September 10 – Signup begins for LCP, LIP  
September 28 - DCP late-filed deadline  
October 2 & 3 – Women Stepping Forward for  
Agriculture Symposium  
October 15 – Signup begins for CDP  
November 2 – COC ballots mailed to voters  
December 3 – COC ballots returned to office

#### **2008 NAP Important Dates**

<b>Crop</b>	<b>Application Closing Date</b>
Perennial Forage, Mint, Mixed Forage, All Types	March 15, 2008
Annual Crops – Both Fall & Spring Seeded Crops: Winter Peas & Rye; Garlic; Wheat Forage; Millet; Buckwheat; Sorghum Forages	March 15, 2008
Perennial Fruit (Apples, Cherries, etc.)	March 15, 2008
Honey	December 1, 2007

**Persons with disabilities who require accommodations to participate in FSA programs should contact Karen Schanz, Golden Valley County FSA  
Box 5, 206 1<sup>st</sup> St. North, Ryegate, MT 59074 phone: 406-568-2221,  
or e-mail at: Karen.schanz @mt.usda.gov**